

**Ozarks Writers League
Board Meeting Minutes
7:00 p.m., August 9, 2023, via Zoom**

Attendees: Ronda Del Boccio, Duke Pennell, Cindy McIntyre, Larry Wood, Veda Boyd Jones, Diana West, Margarite Stever, and Annie Smith.

1. Ronda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval of the agenda and July minutes were made by unanimous consent.
3. Treasurer's Report (Veda Boyd Jones). The report was attached to the agenda and made by unanimous consent.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Webmaster (Duke): Duke will add speaker bios for the upcoming conference. Continue to send in updates that need to be included on the website. Send any kudos (via Veda), and then Duke can upload them.
 - b. Membership (Mary Lane): We have 114 members (16 from VLWP).
 - c. Writing Contest (Larry): Twenty-six paid entries.
 - d. Youth Writing Contest (Cindy) All sponsorships obtained. The flyer will be updated and ready to share after Labor Day.
 - e. Art Contest (Rochelle): No contest until 2024.
 - f. Historian (Linda): No report.
 - g. Fundraising: No report.
 - h. Social Media (Ronda): Sharing updates about mixers, contests, and conferences.
 - i. Nominating Committee: No report.
 - j. Newsletter: Currently, no editor.

Old Business:

Upcoming conference dates: October 27-28 and April 12-13, 2023, at the Honeysuckle Inn, Branson.

5. October Conference lineup confirmed:
 - a. Synova Cantrell: *The Marketing Game*
 - b. Alan Roth: *screenwriter*
 - c. Steve Weigenstein: *POV*
 - d. Panelist: *Making Money Writing* (updates coming)
6. October Conference:
 - a. Duke and Kim: book tables
 - b. Diana: Possible pitch Sessions
7. New and Improved Room Rates at the Honeysuckle Inn. Rooms Rates are \$70, with 30 rooms set aside for OWL. The Cardinal Room \$75.
8. All items are in place with the Village Lake Writers & Poets (VLWP). They dissolved their corporation, and OWL has taken on their funds and membership (100 + potentially). Their lifetime members will have a chance to become OWL lifetime members as well. News of this acquisition was posted on social media to welcome VLWP.

New Business:

9. It's the OWL's 40th anniversary this year. OWLs discussed how we might incorporate that with the OWLIE'S awards night. Watching the 40th-anniversary video and sharing cake with light refreshments at the hotel were well received ideas. Several felt that dinner before the OWL event or on their own would be fine.
10. President Ronda Del Boccio suggested adding a Joan Barrett Roberts prize category to the adult writing contest in honor of the Village Lake Writers and Poets founder with a \$100 purse. The tradition would continue for 5-10 years in consideration of their \$1,700 + donation. Veda made a motion to make this happen for the contest this year. Duke 2nd. All members were in favor.
11. Ronda Del Boccio suggested the OWL board members invite a former VLWP member to be a Board Member at Large. All members were in favor.
12. The next Zoom meeting will be Wednesday, September 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Please continue to use the same link.
13. Veda made a motion to adjourn Duke 2nd. All were in favor.
14. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.